

## *NOAA In Your State*

# Delaware

***“NOAA’s science based work touches 300 million Americans daily, protecting lives and livelihoods. NOAA’s products and services are the result of the hard work of our dedicated staff and partner organizations located in program and research offices throughout the globe. The following is a summary of NOAA programs based in, and focused on, your state or territory. The entries are listed by statewide, region, and then by congressional districts and cities or towns.”***

**Dr. Kathryn Sullivan**

**Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator**

### **DE**

#### **Statewide**

#### **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Northeast Fisheries Science Center](#)**

NMFS is responsible for the management, conservation and protection of living marine resources within the United States’ Exclusive Economic Zone (water three to 200 mile offshore). Using the tools provided by the Magnuson-Stevens Act, NMFS assesses and predicts the status of fish stocks, develops and ensures compliance with fisheries regulations, restores and protects habitat and works to reduce wasteful fishing practices, and promotes sustainable fisheries. Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act, NMFS recovers protected marine species.

The Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (located in Gloucester, MA) includes divisions that promote sustainable fisheries, habitat conservation, and recovery of protected species, and conducts statistical analysis and programs supporting these divisions. Key fish species managed in the Greater Atlantic Region include the northeast “multispecies complex” (cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder etc.), Atlantic sea scallops, herring, lobster, and summer flounder. Key marine endangered species in this region are northern right whales, Kemp’s ridley sea turtles, Atlantic salmon and Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon. NMFS is the lead agency coordinating the Large Whale and Sea Turtle Disentanglement Program activities and the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program activities. The core functions of these programs include coordinating volunteer networks to: respond to entanglements and strandings, investigate mortality events, and conduct biomonitoring, tissue/serum banking, and analytical quality assurance.

The Northeast Fisheries Science Center (headquartered in Woods Hole, MA) focuses on collection, analysis, and presentation of scientific information about the Northeast Shelf ecosystem, its condition, and its marine life. In addition to its six laboratories, the Center uses four research vessels to support its work. The Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries

Office and Science Center are responsible for Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina; and the inland states of Vermont, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and West Virginia.

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Chesapeake Bay-Watershed Education and Training Program](#)**

The NOAA Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program is an environmental education program that promotes locally relevant, experiential learning in the K-12 environment. The primary delivery of B-WET is through competitive funding that promotes Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs). B-WET currently serves seven areas of the country: California, Chesapeake Bay, Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, Hawai'i, New England, and the Pacific Northwest. The Chesapeake B-WET Program recognizes that knowledge and commitment built from firsthand experience, especially in the context of one's community and culture, is essential for achieving environmental stewardship. Chesapeake B-WET responds to regional education and environmental priorities through local implementation of competitive grant funds. Please see regional funding opportunity for priorities and eligibility details.

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Northeast Division](#)**

NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement is the only conservation enforcement program (Federal or State) that is exclusively dedicated to Federal fisheries and marine resource enforcement. Its mission is to protect global marine resources by enforcing domestic laws and international treaties and obligations dedicated to protecting wildlife and their natural habitat. Our special agents and enforcement officers ensure compliance with these laws and take enforcement action if there are violations. Additionally, the Cooperative Enforcement Program allows NOAA the ability to leverage the resources and assistance of 27 coast states and U.S. territorial marine conservation law enforcement agencies in direct support of the Federal enforcement mission. Effective fisheries law enforcement is critical to creating a level playing field for U.S. fishermen and enabling sustainable fisheries to support vibrant coastal communities. The Office of Law Enforcement's Northeast Division is headquartered in Gloucester, Mass., with field offices in Boston, New Bedford and Woods Hole, as well as in Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Virginia and Maryland.

**National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Regional Geodetic Advisor](#)**

The Geodetic Advisor is a jointly funded National Ocean Service (NOS) employee that resides in the state to provide liaison between NOS and the host state. The Geodetic Advisor guides and assists the state's charting, geodetic and surveying programs through technical expertise. The program is designed to fill a need for more accurate geodetic surveys, and is in response to the desire of states to improve their surveying techniques to meet Federal Geodetic Control subcommittee standards and specifications. The surveys provide the basis for all forms of mapping and engineering projects and monitoring of the dynamic Earth. This program also provides technical assistance in planning and implementing Geographic/Land Information System (GIS/LIS) projects.

**National Weather Service (NWS) - Automated Surface Observing Systems [Stations](#)**

The Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS) program is a joint effort of the National Weather Service (NWS), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Department of Defense (DOD). ASOS serves as the Nation's primary surface weather observing network. ASOS is designed to support weather forecast activities and aviation operations and, at the same time, support the needs of the meteorological, hydrological, and climatological research communities. ASOS works non-stop, updating observations every minute, 24 hours a day, every day of the year observing basic weather elements, such as cloud cover, precipitation, wind, sea level pressure, and conditions, such as rain, snow, freezing rain, thunderstorms, and fog. There are two ASOS stations in Delaware.

**National Weather Service (NWS) - Cooperative Observer Program [Sites](#)**

The National Weather Service (NWS) Cooperative Observer Program (COOP) is truly the Nation's weather and climate observing network of, by and for the people. More than 10,000 volunteers take observations on farms, in urban and suburban areas, National Parks, seashores, and mountaintops. The data are representative of where people live, work and play. The COOP was formally created in 1890 under the NWS Organic Act to provide observational meteorological data, usually consisting of daily maximum and minimum temperatures, snowfall, and 24-hour precipitation totals, required to define the climate of the United States and to help measure long-term climate changes, and to provide observational meteorological data in near real-time to support forecast, warning and other public service programs of the NWS. The data are also used by other federal (including the Department of Homeland Security), state and local entities, as well as private companies (such as the energy and insurance industries). In some cases, the data are used to make billions of dollars' worth of decisions. For example, the energy sector uses COOP data to calculate the Heating and Cooling Degree Days which are used to determine individuals' energy bills monthly. There are five COOP sites in Delaware.

**National Weather Service (NWS) - NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards [Transmitters](#)**

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service (NWS) forecast office. NWR broadcasts official NWS warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Working with the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Emergency Alert System, NWR is an "All Hazards" radio network, making it the single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information. In conjunction with federal, state, and local emergency managers and other public officials, NWR also broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards – including natural (such as earthquakes or avalanches), environmental (such as chemical releases or oil spills), and public safety (such as AMBER alerts or 911 Telephone outages). Known as the "Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service," NWR is provided as a public service by the NWS. NWR includes 1,100 transmitters covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. There are two NWR transmitters in Delaware.

**Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - [Sea Grant Program](#)**

NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program is a federal-university partnership that integrates research, education, and outreach (extension and communications). Sea Grant forms a network of 32 programs in all U.S. coastal and Great Lakes states, Puerto Rico and Guam. Delaware Sea Grant, based at the University of Delaware, is a statewide network of research, education, and extension services focused on advancing the wise use, conservation, and management of marine and coastal resources. In addition to conducting research and outreach in ecosystems, sustainable coastal development, safe and sustainable seafood, and hazard resilience in coastal communities, the program promotes ocean and environmental literacy by working to translate complex scientific information to the public.

**[Coastal](#)****National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Deep-Sea Coral Research and Technology Program](#)**

The Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program—called for in the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act—is currently conducting a three-year field research effort off the Northeastern U.S. The 2012-2015 field research will not only improve knowledge about deep-sea life off the northeastern seaboard, but will also inform the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils in their efforts to manage commercial and recreational fisheries that depend on these and other important habitats.

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Restoration Center](#)**

NMFS's Restoration Center works with private and public partners in Delaware and nationwide to restore coastal habitat. Our projects help recover threatened and endangered species, support sustainably managed species, and reverse the damage done by oil spills and toxic releases.

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Species Recovery Program](#)**

Under the authority of section 6 of the Endangered Species Act, the Cooperation with States Program brings states, NMFS, and other partners together to recover threatened and endangered species. Competitive grants are awarded to states through the Species Recovery Grants to States Program to support management, monitoring, research and outreach efforts for species that spend all or a portion of their life cycle in state waters. The funded work is designed to prevent extinctions or reverse the decline of species, and restore ecosystems and their related socioeconomic benefits. Twenty-five coastal states, including Delaware, and U.S. territories currently participate in this program.

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [Sea Turtle Salvage and Stranding Network](#)**

The Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network (STSSN) was formally established in 1980 to collect information on and document strandings of marine turtles along the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic coasts. The network, which includes federal, state and private partners, encompasses the coastal areas of the eighteen-state region from Maine to Texas, and includes portions of the U.S. Caribbean. Data gathered by the Network helps inform bycatch reduction efforts, track factors affecting turtle health, and provide other information needed for sea turtle management and population recovery.

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - [National Marine Mammal Stranding Network](#) and [John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program](#)**

The National Marine Mammal Stranding Network and its trained professionals respond to dead or live marine mammals in distress that are stranded, entangled, out of habitat or otherwise in peril. Our long-standing partnership with the Network provides valuable environmental intelligence, helping NOAA establish links among the health of marine mammals, coastal ecosystems, and coastal communities as well as develop effective conservation programs for marine mammal populations in the wild. There is one stranding network member in the state. NOAA Fisheries funds eligible members of the Stranding Network through the competitive John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program. Since 2001, \$48.2 million has been awarded to 552 grantees who raised over \$15.9 million in matching funds. In FY15, 34 grantees received \$2.7 million nationwide.

**National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System](#)**

The U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) program manages the development of a national network of Regional Associations (RAs) for coastal ocean observing. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARACOOS) is one of these Regional Associations and it extends from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod including the estuaries and the continental shelf waters. MARACOOS provides the necessary ocean observing, data management, and forecasting capacity to systematically address prioritized regional themes including maritime safety, ecosystem based management, water quality, coastal inundation, and offshore energy development.

**National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Navigation Manager](#)**

NOAA's navigation managers work directly with pilots, port authorities, and recreational boating organizations in Delaware. They help identify the navigational challenges facing marine transportation in Delaware and provide NOAA's resources and services that promote safe and efficient navigation. Navigation managers are on call to provide expertise and NOAA navigation response coordination in case of severe coastal weather events or other marine emergencies, as they did in 2012 when Coast Survey deployed an experienced navigation manager to assist Delaware Bay stakeholders in the response to Superstorm Sandy. The Office of Coast Survey has a navigation manager in Silver Spring, MD to support mariners and stakeholders in the Delaware Bay region.

**National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program](#)**

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) brings conservation partners together to protect coastal and estuarine lands considered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical, or aesthetic values. To date CELCP has protected more than 100,000 acres of land nationally and awarded three project grants in Delaware. The program provides state and local governments with matching funds to purchase significant coastal and estuarine lands, or conservation easements on these important lands that are threatened by development. Lands or conservation easements acquired with CELCP funds are protected in perpetuity so that they may be enjoyed by future generations. CELCP has created an interactive map highlighting information about completed projects in your state.

**National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Coastal Management Fellowship](#)**

The NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship matches postgraduate students with state coastal zone programs to work on two-year projects proposed by the state. The Delaware Coastal Program is hosting a fellow who will quantify the economic value of Delaware's tidal wetlands and identify areas of specific wetland characteristics based on the ecosystem services they provide to facilitate wetland protection.

**National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Coastal Management Program](#)**

Through a unique Federal-state partnership, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management (OCM) works with the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's Coastal Management Program to implement the National Coastal Zone Management Program in Delaware. OCM provides the coastal management program with financial and technical assistance to further the goals of the Coastal Zone Management Act and ensure our coastal waters and lands are used in a balanced way to support jobs, reduce use conflicts, and sustain natural resources.

**National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Atlantic Environmental Response Management Application](#)**

Assessing important spatial information and designing successful restoration projects rely upon interpreting and mapping geographic information, including the location, duration, and impacts from oil spills, other hazardous materials, or debris released into the environment. Atlantic\_ERMA® is an online mapping tool that integrates both static and real-time data, such as Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) maps, ship locations, weather, and ocean currents, in a centralized, easy-to-use format for environmental responders and decision makers. In the fall of 2012, Atlantic ERMA was employed as the Common Operational Picture for the U.S. Coast Guard's pollution response to Hurricane Sandy in New York and New Jersey waters.

**National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Marine Debris Projects and Partnerships](#)**

The NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) leads national and international efforts to research, prevent, and reduce the impacts of marine debris. The program supports marine debris removal, education and outreach, and research projects in partnership with state and local agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations, academia, and industry.

### **National Weather Service (NWS) - [Center of Excellence in Marine Technology](#)**

The National Weather Service (NWS), through its National Data Buoy Center (NDBC), develops, deploys, operates, and maintains the current national data buoy network of moored and drifting weather buoys and land stations that serve all of the Nation's coastal states and territories. Within this network, 110 of the buoys and 51 of the land stations are maintained directly by NDBC. Located at NASA's Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, supports weather and marine warning and forecast services in real time by providing deep ocean and coastal meteorological and oceanographic observations. These data provide valuable information used by NWS supercomputers to produce computer-generated model forecasts of the atmosphere and climate. NDBC manages the Volunteer Observing Ship program to acquire additional meteorological and oceanographic observations supporting NWS mission requirements. NDBC also supports operational and research programs of NOAA and other national and international organizations.

NDBC also operates NOAA's network of Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunami (DART®) stations, for the early detection and real-time reporting of tsunamis in the open ocean. Data from the DART®s are used by the National Weather Service Tsunami Warning Centers in Alaska and Hawaii to provide tsunami forecasts, warnings, and information. NDBC, located at NASA's Stennis Space Center, supports weather and marine warning and forecast services in real time by providing deep ocean and coastal meteorological and oceanographic observations.

### ***DE-At Large***

#### ***Claymont to Cape Henlopen***

### **National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Delaware River and Bay PORTS®](#)**

A Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) is operated cooperatively with the local maritime community in the Delaware Bay and River at which real-time data are quality-controlled and disseminated to local users for safe and efficient navigation. Real-time data are available for water levels from ten stations, meteorological data from ten locations, current data from three locations, and air gap from one location.

### ***Dover***

### **National Ocean Service (NOS) - [Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve](#)**

The 4,930 acre Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve was designated in 1993 and is managed by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control. The main site sits along Delaware Bay, approximately six miles outside Dover; a smaller unit is located 24 miles north along Blackbird Creek. This reserve features a full range of tidal wetlands within a historic 18th century plantation setting and contains nearly 100 species of birds. The reserve's mission is to preserve and manage natural resources through coastal stewardship, research, education, and outreach programs for coastal decision-making.

### ***Lewes, Reedy Point***

### **NOAA Office of Education - [Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center](#)**

The University of Maryland - Eastern Shore leads NOAA's Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center (LMRCSC) with its partners: Delaware State University, Hampton University, Savannah State University, the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology, Oregon State University, and the University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences. This Center is part of NOAA's Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions. LMRCSC conducts research in the marine sciences, with areas of specialization in fisheries science, oceanography, ecology, environmental sciences, and environmental molecular biology/biotechnology. LMRCSC develops a pool of highly educated and skilled students from underrepresented groups in the marine sciences. LMRCSC's primary collaborator is the National Marine Fisheries Service.



**NOAA Office of Education - [NOAA Environmental Cooperative Science Center](#)**

The NOAA Environmental Cooperative Science Center (ECSC) is led by Florida A&M University in collaboration with its partner institutions: Creighton University, Delaware State University, Jackson State University, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, and the University of Texas at Brownsville. ECSC is part of NOAA's Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions. ECSC educates a new generation of highly skilled environmental scientists in NOAA mission sciences, and develops the natural and social science tools for integrated assessments of ecosystem health in support of coastal environmental decision-making. The ECSC addresses coastal and marine environmental issues through research collaborations with the National Ocean Service and selected sites of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System.

**National Ocean Service (NOS) - [National Water Level Observation Network](#)**

The National Ocean Service (NOS) operates two long-term continuously operating tide stations in the state of Delaware, which provide data and information on tidal datum and relative sea level trends, and are capable of producing real-time data for storm surge warning. These stations are located at Lewes and Reedy Point. Each station is associated with a set of tidal benchmarks installed in the ground that is used to reference the height of the water levels and helps connect the water level to land.

***Sussex County***

**Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - [Atmospheric Integrated Research Monitoring Network](#)**

A NOAA Atmospheric Integrated Research Monitoring Network (AIRMoN) site is located in Lewes (Sussex County), DE. The site has been in operation since 1992 collecting data on major ions in precipitation (rain, snow) on a daily basis, and previously since 1976 on an event basis. The major ions collected include: sulfate, nitrate, phosphorus, pH, ammonium, sodium, chloride, and soil cations. AIRMoN is a sub-network of the National Atmospheric Deposition Program.

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**NOAA**

**NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION**  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

